

### DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-28, 45-50, and 60-70 are pending.

### EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.
3. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given September 9, 2009 by Justas Geringson during a telephone interview.
4. Generally, the independent system claim 45 has been amended to remove intended use language; specifically "configured to" phrases.
5. Underlined text indicates added language and struck through text or double bracketed text indicates deletions.
6. The application, specifically claim 45, has been amended as follows:

**Claim 45. (Currently Amended)** A system for modifying mail filters, the system comprising:

a server ~~configured to~~ comprising:

a receiving unit ~~receive~~ receiving a subscription request from a recipient to a sender, the subscription request including user information, wherein the subscription request is received as part of a web browser interaction before

sending any electronic mail between the sender and the recipient and wherein the subscription request is initiated by the recipient; and

a transmission unit transmitting a token containing a petition from the sender to a computing device where the recipient resides as a result of the subscription request, the petition comprising a request for the sender to be added to a list of approved mail senders, the list associated with the user wherein the token containing the petition is stored at the computing device where the recipient resides and wherein the petition is transmitted as part of said web browser interaction before sending any electronic mail, wherein inside the petition the sender specifies a set of methods that the sender will use to identify itself in a future time when the sender sends the electronic mail to the recipient;

a petition generator ~~configured to generate~~ generating the petition from the user information; and

a petition processor ~~configured to processing~~ the petition contained in the token if the token is found on the computing device where the recipient resides by adding the sender to the list of approved mail senders as specified in the petition wherein, at the time of receiving an electronic mail message from the sender to the recipient, the set of methods specified by the sender in the petition are employed by the recipient to verify the sender's identity that transmitted the electronic mail message.

***Allowable Subject Matter***

7. Claims 1-28, 45-50, and 60-70 are allowed.
8. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The prior art fails to disclose or suggest all limitations of the claimed invention with particular emphasis on a method for modifying mail filters including, generating a petition by the sender based on submitted user information, the petition comprising a request for the sender to be added to a list of approved mail senders, the list associated with the user, wherein inside the petition the sender specifies a set of methods that the sender will use to identify itself in a future time when the sender sends the electronic mail to the recipient, and transmitting a token containing the petition from the sender to the recipient as a result of the subscription request and storing said token at a computing device where the recipient resides, wherein the petition is transmitted during said web browser interaction before sending electronic mail between the sender and the recipient, and transmitting an electronic mail message from the sender to the recipient, wherein the set of methods specified by the sender in the petition are employed by the recipient to verify the sender's identity that transmitted the electronic mail message.
9. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

***Conclusion***

10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thomas J. Dailey whose telephone number is 571-270-1246. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday thru Friday; 9:00am - 5:00pm.
11. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Follansbee can be reached on 571-272-3964. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.
12. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/T. J. D./  
Examiner, Art Unit 2452

Application/Control Number: 10/721,044  
Art Unit: 2452

Page 6

/Dohm Chankong/  
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2452